

Dear Friend;

As you know, I am committed to working with you to do everything I can to help the manufacturing industry in Michigan. One problem in particular that needs to be addressed is the cost of unnecessary, over burdensome and outdated federal regulations. Fortunately, we have an opportunity to make some real progress on this problem. I need your help to identify these unnecessary regulations and to advocate for changes.

As you may know, in the draft 2004 Report to Congress on the Costs and Benefits of Federal Regulation, there is a section in which the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) specifically requests public nominations of regulatory reforms relevant to the manufacturing sector. These reforms may include modifying, extending or rescinding regulatory programs, guidance documents or paperwork requirements.

You can access the full 60-page draft report and the request for comments at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/infoereg/regpol-reports_congress.html.

OMB requests that when submitting a specific recommendation, you consider whether:

1. A benefit-cost case can be made for reform;
2. The agency or agencies have statutory authority to make the suggested changes;
3. The reform recommendation gives consideration to fair and open trade policy objectives; and
4. The rule or program is important.

Comments on the entire draft report are due **May 20, 2004**, and the nominations for specific regulatory reforms are due at this time as well. The recommendations for regulatory reforms will be shared with relevant federal agencies for evaluation and then included in the final report to Congress, which is scheduled to be released later this year.

Nominations for regulatory reforms must be in writing, and can either be submitted electronically to OIRA_BC_RPT@omb.eop.gov or faxed to **(202) 395-7245**. Should you submit any nominations, please forward a copy of any suggestions to me so that I can include them along with the comments I intend to provide.

You may forward a copy of your suggestions to the following address:

Congressman Pete Hoekstra
184 South River Avenue
Holland, Michigan 49423

If you have any questions about this effort, please feel free to contact my Legislative Director, Justin Wormmeester, at (202) 225-4401.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,



Pete Hoekstra
Member of Congress